

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
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In Reply To:
4100(923)P

June 14, 2004

EMAIL TRANSMISSION - 06/15/04
Instruction Memorandum No. MT-2004-070

Expires: 9/30/05

To: Field Managers

From: State Director

Subject: Cooperative Rangeland Monitoring **DD: 6/18/04, 8/13/04**

Washington Office Instruction Memorandum (IM) No. 2004-179 requested field offices (FOs) to send the Cooperative Rangeland Monitoring Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and a letter, co-signed by Director Clark and Public Lands Council President K. L. Bliss, to permittees and lessees by June 18, 2004. The IM also directed FOs to develop a list of permittees and lessees interested in participating in cooperative rangeland monitoring for the 2004 field season.

Montana/Dakotas field offices are to customize the Montana/Dakotas cover letter (Attachment 1) and mail it with the Director's Cover Letter (Attachment 2) and MOU (Attachment 3) on or about Friday, **June 18, 2004**. The mailing list should consist of permittees and lessees, Resource Advisory Council members, and county officials. The FOs should expand the mailing list to other agencies and publics that have shown an interest in allotment management and monitoring issues.

By **August 13, 2004**, field offices will provide the Montana State Office (MSO) with a preliminary list of individuals who desire to be part of this cooperative monitoring effort, or respond in the negative if no expressions of interest are received. Any additional names received after August 13, 2004, will be forwarded upon receipt.

Questions about implementation of this MOU have been forwarded and we expect to receive additional guidance from the Washington Office. In addition to using standard Bureau of Land Management (BLM) monitoring methods, some FOs have inquired as to whether we will adopt a standard training program such as *Monitoring for Success* by the Montana State Department of Natural Resources and Conservation. This could be an excellent option, particularly if we receive a lot of interest and have a need for standardized training. Please keep the MSO apprised of the responses that you receive from this mailing so that we can develop an appropriate and consistent approach commensurate with the level and type of interest that occurs. Depending on the level of interest your office experiences, you may need to phase-in implementation and establish a schedule based on workload and rangeland health priorities.

Please email your preliminary list of interested participants to Bill Volk. Any questions or comments concerning the MOU and rangeland monitoring should be directed to Bill by email or at 406-896-5029.

Signed by: A. Jerry Meredith, Acting

Authenticated by: Merry Prestridge (MT923)

3 Attachments

- 1-Montana/Dakotas Cover Letter (1 p)
- 2-Director's Cover Letter (1 p)
- 3-Cooperative Rangeland Monitoring Memorandum of Understanding (6 pp)

Distribution

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